

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS

Subject: Hiss Chambers

File Number: 65-14920

Section: Vol. 34 Serials 4093-4183



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## NOTICE

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65-14920

Vol. 34

*100*  
SERIALS

*100*  
4093-4183

NEW YORK

## INVENTORY WORKSHEET

FIELD OFFICE  
FILE NO:  
VOL. NO:

NEW YORK  
65-14920  
34

RE: Hiss

DATE 9/77

(Mo / Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
4093	7/51/49	New York teletype to Bureau	1	Yes	
4094	7/15/49	Chicago Report to Bureau	7	Yes	
4095	7/15/49	Detroit Report to Bureau	2	Yes	
4096	7/15/49	Detroit Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4097	7/15/49	New York Memo of SA Martin	1	No	Released in full
4098	7/14/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4099	7/15/49	New York Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4100	7/18/49	New York Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4101	7/18/49	New York Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4102	7/18/49	New York Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4103	7/14/49	Bureau Letter to New York	1	Yes	

FIELD OFFICE  
FILE NO:  
VOL. NO:

New York  
65-14920  
34

INVENTORY WORKSHEET

RE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 5/77

(Mo / Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
4104	7/18/49	New York Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4105	7/19/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4106		Serial Missing			
4107	7/8/49	New York Memo of SA Tuohy	1	No	Released in full
4108	7/19/49	Los Angeles Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4109	6/29/49	New York Memo of SA Danahy	2	No	Released in full
4110	7/21/49	Bureau letter to Richmond	1	Yes	
4111	7/22/49	New York Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4112	7/25/49	Bureau Letter to Baltimore	1	Yes	
4113	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Tuohy	1	No	Released in full
4114	7/22/49	New York Memo of SA Buckley	2	No	(see attached)

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New York  
65-14920  
34

INVENTORY WORKSHEET

RE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

5/77.

(Mo / Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
4115	7/22/49	Bureau letter to New York	1	Yes	
4116	7/26/49	New York letter to Bureau	6	Yes	
4117	7/28/49	New York Letter to Bureau	3	Yes	
4118	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	2	No	Released in full
4119	7/26/49	New York Memo of AD Connelley	2	No	Released in full
4120	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4121	7/26/49	New York Memo of AD Connelley	2	No	Released in full
4122	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	2	No	Released in full
4123	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4124	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4125	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full

## INVENTORY WORKSHEET

FIELD OFFICE  
FILE NO:  
VOL. NO:

New York  
65-14920  
.34

RE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

9/77.

(Mo / Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
4126	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4127	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4128	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4129	7/21/49	New York Memo of SA Spencer	1	No	Released in full
4130	7/29/49	New York teletype to Bureau	1	Yes	
4131	7/22/49	San Francisco Report to Bureau	2	Yes	
4132	7/26/49	Houston Letter to New York	1	Yes	
4133	7/29/49	Bureau Letter to New York	1	Yes	
4134	7/19/49	Baltimore Report to Bureau	11	Yes	
4135	8/3/49	New York teletype to Bureau	2	Yes	
4135A	7/27/49	Baltimore Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	

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RE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

5/77

(Mo /-Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
4136	8/2/49	Baltimore Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4137	8/3/49	Washington Field Office letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4138	8/2/49	Bureau Letter to New York	1	Yes	
4139	8/3/49	Washington Field Office report to Bureau	13	Yes	
4140	8/3/49	Washington Field Office report to Bureau	3	Yes	
4141	8/3/49	Washington Field Office report to Bureau	27	Yes	
4142	8/3/49	Washington Field Office report to Bureau	145	Yes	
4143	8/4/49	New York Memo of SA O'Mara	2	No	Released in full
4144	8/5/49	New York letter to Bureau	2	Yes	
4145	8/8/49	New York Memo	1	Yes	
4146	8/4/49	San Diego Letter to Bureau	1	Yes	



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**DATE**

5/77

(Mo / -Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
4147	7/14/49	U.S.A. Letter to Director	2	Yes	
4148	7/14/49	U.S.A. Letter to Director	1	Yes	
4149	7/20/49	Director Letter to U.S.A.	1	Yes	
4150	7/18/49	U.S.A. Letter to Director	1	Yes	
4151	7/20/49	Bureau Letter to U.S.A.	1	Yes	
4152	7/20/49	Bureau Letter to U.S.A.	1	Yes	
4153	8/3/49	New York Memo of AD Connelley	4	No	Released in full
4154	8/4/49	New York Memo of AD Connelley	4	No	Released in full
4155	8/4/49	New York letter to Bureau	3	Yes	
4156	8/8/49	New York letter to Bureau	2	Yes	
4157	8/9/49	Los Angeles letter to Bureau	2	Yes	

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**DATE**

5/77

(Mo / -Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
4158	8/9/49	New York letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4159	8/10/49	New York letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4160	8/10/49	New York teletype to Bureau	1	Yes	
4161	8/9/49	Knoxville letter to New York	1	No	Released in full
4162	8/9/49	Indianapolis letter to New York	1	No	Released in full
4163	8/10/49	Bureau letter to Detroit	1	Yes	
4164	8/10/49	New Haven letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4165	8/11/49	Boston teletype to Bureau	1	Yes	
4166	7/19/49	San Diego report to Bureau	4	Yes	
4167	8/10/49	Washington Field Office letter to New York	1	No	Released in full
4168	7/23/49	News Clipping from New Yorker	4	No	Released in full

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**RE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE**

5/77

(Mo /-Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
4169	8/12/49	Washington Field Office report to Bureau	4	Yes	
4170	8/11/49	Houston report to Bureau	4	Yes	
4171	8/12/49	San Antonio report to Bureau	2	Yes	
4172	8/15/49	New York Memo	1	No	Released in full
4173	8/11/49	New York letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4174	8/15/49	New York letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4175	8/15/49	New York letter to Bureau	1	Yes	
4176	8/16/49	New York teletype to Bureau	1	Yes	
4177	8/12/49	Bureau letter to Albany	1	Yes	
4178	8/10/49	San Diego report to Bureau	21	Yes	
4179	8/10/49	San Diego letter to Bureau	1	Yes	



DOC. NO.	SERIAL NO.	DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT	PAGES ACTUAL REL.	DELETION(S)	EXEMPTION(S)	CROSS REF.
	4F14	Memo SA Buckley, New York to file 7-22-49		<p>Page 1. Paragraph 1. Name of confidential informant</p> <p>Page 1. Paragraph 1. Symbol number of confidential informant</p> <p>Page 1. Paragraph 2. Name of confidential informant</p> <p>Page 1. Paragraph 4. Lines 2 and 3 identify source</p>	<p>(b) (7) (D)</p> <p>(b) (2)</p> <p>(b) (7) (D)</p> <p>(b) (7) (C)</p>	

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York #7, New York

July 15, 1949

MEMO

RE: JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was., et al  
PERJURY  
ESPIONAGE - R  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Reference is made to the report of SA F. G. JOHNSTONE, dated March 30, 1949, at Baltimore.

Reference report set out a lead for the New York Office to consider the advisability of locating and interviewing CIAIR LANING who was a frequent social companion of SALLY RINGE and LENORE THOMAS.

In this regard it is noted that MARGARET VALIANT of the Hotel Bristol, New York City, when interviewed by the writer concerning SALLY RINGE and LENORE THOMAS, advised the writer she had discussed SALLY RINGE and LENORE THOMAS with CIAIR LANING and had told LANING she had been interviewed by the F.B.I. concerning any connection by SALLY RINGE and LENORE THOMAS with ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS. She said that LENORE had told her that neither SALLY RINGE or LENORE THOMAS had ever been Communists or pro-Communist and that LANING had laughed at the idea that the FBI was seeking to ascertain any Communist activities on the part of RINGE or THOMAS.

Further, MARGARET VALIANT said that LANING thought the whole matter ridiculous especially the fact the FBI was asking questions concerning any connection between the HISS Family and SALLY RINGE and LENORE THOMAS.

The writer however attempted to interview CIAIR LANING at his residence, 188 East End Avenue. Mrs. A. PARTIK, superintendent of these premises advised that LANING had sublet his apartment for the Summer.

Subsequently after several visits to this building, Miss M. DONNELLY advised that CIAIR LANING had sublet the apartment to her and two other girls. She said that CIAIR LANING had gone to Europe early in the month of April and would not be back to the United States until sometime after September. In view of the above, it is suggested that no further investigation be conducted on this.

JAMES P. MARTIN  
SA

JPM:EMK  
65-14920

7-14920-4097

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York 7, New York

July 14, 1949

MEMO:

Re: JAHAN  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE -R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Re: ADLAI E. STEVENSON, Governor of Illinois,  
Character reference for ALGER HISS.

It will be recalled that during the trial of the HISS case, the deposition of Governor STEVENSON of Illinois commenting upon the character of ALGER HISS was read into the record.

AUSA MURPHY has made available the following anonymous communication which was received by him in an envelope postmarked "Springfield, Illinois, June 5, 1949." The letter, in part, is as follows:

Referring to the STEVENSON deposition, this individual writes that ANGELO Di ANDREA, a tavern keeper and gambler convicted in the United States District Court, Springfield, Illinois for bootlegging during prohibition. Di ANDREA has a police record and presently holds an important position for Governor STEVENSON, and this position is in payment for political work that he previously did for the Governor.

JOSEPH SCHMIDT, a former grocery man, was convicted in the United States District Court, Springfield, Illinois, for illegal shipment of whiskey through United States Mails. SCHMIDT is now said to hold a fat job under STEVENSON for payment for political work done by SCHMIDT for STEVENSON during the time the latter was running against Mr. GREEN.

The individual states that the above mentioned stories are well known in political circles in Springfield and that this information can be verified by an examination of the court records of Springfield.

TGS:ED  
65-14920

*No action necessary  
at this time  
Can be run out later  
if necessary  
7/18/49  
WPS*

65-14920-4078  
THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA  
JUL 15 1949  
N. Y. C.  
ROUTED TO FILE

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York 7, New York

July 19, 1949

MEMO.

Re: JAHAM

PERJURY; ESPIONAGE -R; INTERNAL SECURITY -R

The attached novel, "The Middle of the Journey" by LIONEL TRILLING was purchased during the progress of this case in view of the fact that it was thought that there were some parallel situations in this story as compared with the life of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS. This book was read by SA LAWRENCE W. SPILLANE and a memo reflecting this review has been placed in the file.

It does not appear that this novel will have any future use in connection with the JAHAM case and it is suggested that it be placed in the office library.

THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA

TGS:ED  
65-14920

*w.m.*  
*Encl*  
*Library*  
*7/20*

65-14920-4105  
F. B. I.  
JUL 19 1949  
N. Y. C.  
ROUTED TO FILE



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, N. Y.

- MR. BELMONT
- MR. WHELAN
- MR. BRIDGEMAN
- MR. GARDNER
- MR. HENRICH
- MR. LADD
- MR. NICHOLS
- MR. ROSEN
- MR. TRACY
- MR. WATSON
- MR. WOOD
- MR. MOHR
- MR. WINTERROWD
- MR. NEASE
- MR. GANDY
- NIGHT SUPERVISOR
- MR. HOLLMAN
- MR. SHANNON
- MR. TUOHY
- MR. WATSON
- PROPERTY CLERK
- TRAINING UNIT

July 8, 1949

MEMORANDUM:

Re: JAHAM

While speaking with Night Supervisor Earl Milnes in connection with the outcome of the trial in instant matter tonight, I informed him that immediately after the jury was dismissed Defense Attorney PAUL STRYKER had rushed up to U. S. Attorney John F. X. McGohey in Court and had stated to McGohey that it is nice to have the FBI on your side in a case. McGohey had replied by telling STRYKER that the FBI is on both sides--that they seek the truth and usually gave McGohey what is not good for his case as well as what is good for his case. STRYKER then said, "Yes, but I'd like to have them on my side next time--they do a great job." McGohey then told STRYKER that he should tell the jury that next time instead of what he had told the jury this time.

A. J. TUOHY,  
Special Agent

AJT:RAA  
65-14920

65-14920-4107

F. B. I.	
JUL 21 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

New York, N. Y.

June 29, 1949

MEMORANDUM:

RE: WALCOLM COWLEY  
SECURITY MATTER - C

The above-captioned individual, who is an alleged free lance editor and book reviewer, and was formerly the editor of the New Republic, appeared as a surprise witness in the trial of ALGER HISS, and testified as to an alleged conversation which he had with WHITTAKER CHAMBERS in 1940. In this conversation COWLEY alleged that CHAMBERS had told him that FRANCIS B. SAYRE was the leader of a Communist underground group in Washington in the late thirties. COWLEY, over the objections of the USA, was allowed to introduce a memorandum of this conversation which he allegedly prepared on the same evening that the conversation took place. This memorandum was contained in a notebook in which COWLEY alleges he maintains memorandums concerning items of interest and conversations in which he engages. The memorandum was contained on pages 66 and 67.

A review of the remainder of this book by the writer reflects numerous instances wherein COWLEY indicates a highly antagonistic attitude towards the FBI. One of these instances is being set forth as an example as follows:

On page 108 COWLEY has written a memorandum entitled "Washington Hirings —":

"A man asked to accept a Government job might prepare the following statement for the FBI:

"I was never an anti-Fascist. I favored Franco's side in the Spanish civil war. Until Pearl Harbor I believed that the United States could and should stay out of war. Labor should be kept in its place.

"I never liked that man Roosevelt and have always voted against him. I am not public-spirited and never supported any cause or signed any petitions. I am not religious either, but I go to church 20 or 30 times a year for the looks of things.

"I hate all foreigners. I believe that this is a war for the defense of American capitalism.

/s/ Elmer Doakes

P.S. He got the job."

JJD:RAA

cc - New York 65-14920

65-14920-4109

F. B. I.
JUN 30 1949
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO

JJD:LA

New York, N. Y.

Re: MALCOLM COWLEY  
SECURITY MATTER - C

The above-captioned memorandum is undated, but is being set forth to guide this office in its future relations with COWLEY as being a typical indication of the attitude he takes of the Bureau. Since this memorandum appears on page 108 and the previously referred to memorandum appears on page 67 and was dated December 13, 1940, it is presumed that COWLEY prepared this memorandum re the FBI after his alleged break with the Communists in 1939, and should be indicative of his present unchanged attitude towards the Bureau.

J. J. DANAHY,  
Special Agent

cc - New York 65-14920

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, N. Y.**

- ...MR. BELMONT
- ...MR. WILSON
- ...MR. DESS
- ...MR. CHASE
- ...MR. HANCOCK
- ...MR. KANE
- ...MR. MARSHALL
- ...MR. MOHR
- ...NIGHT SUPERVISOR
- ...MR. QUINN
- ...MR. SHANNON
- ...MR. TERRY
- ...PROPERTY CLERK
- ...TRAINING UNIT

July 21, 1949

**MEMORANDUM:**

Re: JAHAM

On July 19, 1949, NORMA ABRAMS of the Daily News called at the office to offer assistance in connection with any future investigation conducted in and about Chestertown, Maryland, in captioned matter. She explained that she has visited the Eastern shore on many occasions and is well acquainted there. She said that from her visits she knows that ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS have numerous relatives in the vicinity of Chestertown, particularly at Oxford. They also have many close friends in the same area, which is frequented by a rather ultra-conservative class of people, in fairly substantial circumstances. The HISSES were always regarded in this area by this group as very liberal, to say the least. She said that she was sure that if the HISSES did not stay in Chestertown in the Summer of 1937, it could easily be ascertained where they stayed; that she feels there are some people in the area who would know and would be willing to talk. She suggested specifically that a very close friend of hers, very reliable, a Mrs. DORIS RAND, Fairview, Easton, Maryland, should prove very cooperative and possibly very helpful in this regard.

*See lead  
under  
1/1/49-18*

Miss ABRAMS said that she has another friend in the area whom she intends contacting herself in an attempt to ascertain such information as she may possess along the above lines. She said she would contact this friend as a reporter and not indicate in any way that she intends to pass over to the Bureau the information she might receive.

Miss ABRAMS was thanked for her cooperation.

A. J. TUOHY,  
Special Agent

AJT:RAA  
65-14920

*1st sent Bulko  
OK*

*1st Bulko*

65-14920-4113	
F. B. I.	
JUL 21 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FIVE
<i>O'Keefe</i>	<i>OK</i>

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York 7, New York

July 22, 1949

MR. BELMONT
MR. WHELAN
MR. DESS
MR. GRANVILLE
MR. HARVEY
MR. KURTZ
MR. MAIBURG
MR. ROY
MR. SUPERVISOR
MR. QUINN
MR. SHANNON
MR. TOLSON
MR. WATSON
PROPERTY CLERK
TRAINING UNIT

MEMO:

RE: JAHAM;  
ESPIONAGE - R

On July 21, 1949, [redacted] of this office, telephonically advised the writer that she had had a conversation with Mrs. HORTY MARKS, former Assistant Treasurer of New York County Communist Party. During this conversation between these two people, MARKS stated that she had been employed for the past few months as a part-time teacher at the Dalton School and that she got this position through PRISCILLA HISS, wife of ALGER HISS.

[redacted] stated to the writer that she questioned HORTY MARKS concerning her acquaintance with Mr. and Mrs. ALGER HISS, and MARKS informed her that she was fairly well acquainted with these people, and that just recently Mrs. PRISCILLA HISS arranged for HORTY MARKS to receive a full-time teaching position at the Dalton School, taking the position held by Mrs. HISS since she had to resign her job in order to be available at the trial of her husband, ALGER HISS.

MARKS, according to the informant, stated that she believed ALGER HISS to be innocent of the charges placed against him by the Government and that she considered the HISS family nice people. The informant stated that she did not go into great detail concerning the close relationship between HORTY MARKS and the HISSSES since she did not want to create any suspicion.

The informant stated, however, that she has known HORTY MARKS for several years, [redacted]

[redacted], and was aware of MARKS' Communist Party activities, which she reported to this office.

The informant stated that MARKS is presently divorced from her husband, is the mother of two children, and is the flighty type person.

cc: NY 100-58118  
NY 162-9272

EWB:llcm  
65-14920

*Lead card file  
copy to [redacted]  
to make lead  
7/29/49*  
*Consider  
interview  
lead card  
7/29/49*

65-14920-4114	
F. B. I.	
JUL 22 1949	
N. Y. C.	
RECEIVED <i>Kelly</i>	FILE <i>NY</i>

Memo

NY 65-14920

The informant stated that perhaps if MARKS were interviewed by Agents of this office, she no doubt would become upset, etc., and may furnish some information about Mr. and Mrs. ALGER HISS.

EDWARD W. BUCKLEY

SA

The writer told  
SA D. F. Shannon  
about the above.  
EWB

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

1.1 enclosure  
1 to 10 inc ✓  
3 to 11 A.  
July 21, 1949  
R/S

MEMO

RE: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

On July 20, 1949 a conference was held in the office of SAAG T. J. DONEGAN, Room 1404, United States Court House. This conference was called by AUSA THOMAS F. MURPHY for the purpose of talking over some of the aspects of the HISS trial and to obtain whatever suggestions possible in connection with any further investigation that might be conducted which would be of assistance in the retrial of this case.

Those present, in addition to Mr. MURPHY and DONEGAN, were as follows: Assistant Director E. J. CONNELLY, ASAC A. H. BELMONT, SAS TOUHY, SHANNON, DANAHY, SULLIVAN and SPENCER.

Mr. MURPHY suggested the possibility of accelerating the HISS-CHAMBERS civil suit in Baltimore, but after some discussion it was tentatively decided that this might not be a good tactical maneuver at this time. Further discussion was had and it was eventually decided that several investigative steps would be taken. They are briefly as follows:

1. To accelerate the investigation of JOHN LOOMIS SHERMAN in California with the hope of obtaining successful interview of SHERMAN prior to the date of the retrial of the HISS case. *see letter E. J. Connelly 7/27/49*
2. To obtain typewriting specimens from the HISS-FANZLER typewriter that is presently in possession of the clerk of the building, WILLIAM CONNELL.
3. To make a thorough study of the common typing errors that appear in the Baltimore documents as well as the known typewriting specimens of PRISCILLA HISS, such as the Bryn Mawr report and the thesis that PRISCILLA HISS and her sister prepared, and which is presently filed at Columbia University.
4. To obtain a complete run-down of the CATLETT family, both prior to their moving to P Street on January 17, 1938 and during the pertinent period of this investigation.

F. B. I.	
JUL 21 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO Lally	FILED gk

TGS:NJG  
65-14920

*Belmont*  
*July 21 1949*  
*65-14920-418*  
*Danahy*

MEMO  
NY 65-14920

5 To review the transcript of PRISCILLA HISS' testimony in connection with the purchases she allegedly made resulting from the \$400 withdrawal from the joint savings of herself and her husband.

6 To review the Grand Jury testimony of A. GEORGE SILVERMAN as well as the latest interviews that have been had with him to determine the desirability of a reinterview with SILVERMAN, or to use him as a witness in the Government's case in the retrial. *See letter to Director of E.S. @ 7/12/44*

7 To further inquire into the so-called commitment ALGER HISS obtained prior to his signing of the lease on the Volta place and to review the testimony of Mrs. CHAMBERS, Mrs. HISS and the contractor in connection with the physical setup of this residence.

8 To review the material furnished to Mr. MURPHY by SARAH W. S. MILLER of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, so that it may be determined whether an interview with this woman should be had.

9 To review the files to obtain all information concerning the number of State Department documents that were run-off when original cables, etc. were received and the manner in which they were distributed and to whom.

10 To make further inquiry into just what happened at the Carnegie Foundation for International Peace after CHAMBERS' original accusation of ALGER HISS before the HCUA.

11 To make further inquiry at Peterboro, New Hampshire, Thomaston, Connecticut and Chestertown, Maryland in connection with the so-called Peterboro trip made by ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS and WHITTAKER CHAMBERS. *See memo E.S. @ 7/12/44 (11A)*

In order to facilitate the handling of this requested investigation, a separate detailed memorandum is being prepared in connection with the eleven points set forth above.

THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York

July 26, 1949

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE-R;  
INTERNAL SECURITY- R

*Done  
See letter of E. J. O  
to Director  
7.26  
San Diego*

JOHN LOOMIS SHERMAN

Reference memorandum of SA Thomas G. Spencer, 7/21/49, as to the further work necessary preliminary to the retrial of ALGER HISS.

Immediate efforts should be made to bring the investigation as to JOHN LOOMIS SHERMAN up-to-date as conducted by the San Diego and Los Angeles offices. It is very necessary that we determine, if possible, whether he is, or is not, now engaged in Soviet espionage activity or Communist Party activity, with the thought that if he is not still engaged, it might be possible to get a statement from him as to his espionage activities with JAY WHITTAKER CHAMBERS. As reflected in JOHN LOOMIS SHERMAN's file, 100-63038, serial 56, CHAMBERS advises that SHERMAN visited CHAMBERS at his apartment, 903 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, in 1934, and as is further indicated in teletype from New York to the Bureau dated February 23, 1949, and which was also sent to Los Angeles.

CHAMBERS, serial 3356, supplemental summary report, page 2, states that in the latter part of 1934 he and his family moved from Lynbrook to 903 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, where they lived until the early summer of 1935.

Los Angeles should have available the pictures of HISS and his wife as of the present, and of the earlier years, as available to us when and if SHERMAN is interviewed.

It is noted that CHAMBERS moved from 903 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, to 2831 28th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., where they occupied the apartment made available to them by ALGER HISS, until the latter part of June, 1935.

cc: NY 100-63038

EJC:MRW  
65-14920

*Lead card  
made ok*

*Baltimore  
Donkey  
Spencer  
Kelly*

4119	
F. B. I.	
JUL 26 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO <i>Wood</i>	FILE <i>270</i>

MEMO  
NY 65-14920

On the occasion when SHERMAN visited CHAMBERS at his home on St. Paul Street, Baltimore, he supposedly met ALGER HISS and PRISCILLA HISS at the home at this time. SHERMAN was then preparing for his departure for Japan. CHAMBERS cannot recall the reason for this meeting or the circumstances. CHAMBERS lived here as LLOYD CANTWELL. SHERMAN was known as "DON". GRACE HUTCHINSON supposedly told CHAMBERS that SHERMAN wrote a pamphlet entitled, "Chemical Warfare" under the name of DONALD CAMERON. See report in file 100-63033, serial 55, above referred to, wherein it is noted that we had deferred interview of BARBARA WERTHEIM until SHERMAN was interviewed. *Read page 14. Rpt. John J. Ward*

*NY. 217144.*  
It will be most desirable to have SHERMAN available as a witness in the retrial to testify as to the espionage activities of CHAMBERS and his meeting with PRISCILLA and ALGER HISS, if he will verify any such situation.

The investigation as to SHERMAN should, therefore, be concentrated along the most important essential possibilities that he will be made a witness if he can be persuaded to disclose the information as in this situation, and particularly as to whether or not he did make such a call at the home of CHAMBERS where he met PRISCILLA and ALGER HISS.

  
E. J. CONNELLEY  
Assistant Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York

July 21, 1949

#2  
MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R.

RE: TYPEWRITER SPECIMENS FROM THE  
HISS-FANZLER TYPEWRITER

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949, in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

The HISS-FANZLER typewriter is presently in the custody of the clerk of the building, WILLIAM CONNELL, whose office is located on the sixth floor of this building. As has been pointed out in referenced memorandum, typewriter specimens should be obtained from this machine. In connection with the obtaining of the specimens, it is the request of Mr. MURPHY that Mr. CONNELL, or if he is not available, JOE MCKENZIE, Mr. CONNELL'S assistant, be physically present during all the time that the agents are taking specimens of this typewriter. In order to protect the Bureau in the retrial of this case, the agents who handle this assignment should be able to testify, if so called, that at no time was this typewriter in their possession without the clerk or his assistant being present.

In connection with the physical taking of the specimens, Assistant Director CONNELLEY has requested that the specimens should actually be taken by an agent who is a good typist. The specimens should be taken in accordance with the rules set forth in the FBI Handbook, and several verbatim copies of the questioned documents (the Baltimore papers) should be made. Mr. CONNELLEY has further directed that if the ribbon is not in good condition, that a complete set of specimens be obtained with the ribbon that is presently in the machine, and thereafter a new ribbon should be inserted and another complete set of specimens obtained. Each set of specimens should be labeled in such a fashion that the Bureau technicians can tell whether the specimens were made with the ribbon that was in the machine at the time, or whether they were made with the new ribbon. Mr. CONNELLEY has also directed that in the event that it is necessary to send the original questioned documents to the Bureau for this comparison, that they be brought by courier rather than sending them by mail.

TGS:NJG  
65-14920

THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA

*See memo by S. J. Connelley on taking specimens*

F. B. I.	
JUL 21 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO <i>Murphy</i>	FILE <i>72</i>

*McKenzie*

MEMO

NY 65-14920

It is suggested, therefore, that all of the serials containing information concerning these common typing errors be reviewed and that the thesis, which has been returned to Columbia University, be again obtained so that a comprehensive summary and a compilation of these errors may be prepared for whatever use Mr. MURPHY may see fit to use them.

THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

① Set up transcript  
each, Raymond  
Perry  
4

Catlett #4

July 21, 1949

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

RE: CATLETT FAMILY

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949, in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

In order to comply with Mr. MURPHY'S request for "a complete run-down" of the CATLETT family during the pertinent period of this investigation, it is believed that the following information will have to be obtained:

Determine from available records, if this can be done, the residences of the entire CATLETT family for at least a year prior to their moving to P Street on January 17, 1938.

had been made or

① Obtain all available facts regarding the leasing of the premises on P Street by GEORGE ROULHAC to establish a documentary proof, if possible, that the CATLETTS moved into the address on P Street with GEORGE ROULHAC on January 17, 1938.

① Place them in your residence and date they moved  
4/6

② It will probably be advisable to review the testimony of CLAUDIA RAYMOND and PERRY KATLETT to point up any discrepancies in their testimony with the results of our investigation.

③ The moving of the CATLETTS to P Street subsequent to January 1, 1938 is probably one of the most important developments of this case, and it will be noted in the transcript that it was not very definitely brought out that the CATLETTS actually moved to P Street on January 17, 1938, and it was only a statement by Mr. MURPHY in the cross examination that brought this fact out. Mr. MURPHY is very desirous of being able to "nail this point down."

④ Considerable investigation of the CATLETTS has been made by the Washington Field Office and our file should be thoroughly reviewed before any investigation is requested of the Washington Field Office in connection with this phase of the case.

N. Y. C.  
65-14920-4123  
Bil...  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

TGS: NJG  
65-14920

② See all teletypes and memo  
Subsequent  
first Summary Report  
THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA  
KELLY

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

#5

July 21, 1949

7/26/49  
See letter to Washington  
to cover this lead

Bme

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY  
ESPIONAGE - R

RE: MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD PURCHASES  
MADE BY PRISCILLA HISS IN CONNECTION  
WITH THE \$400 WITHDRAWAL

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949 in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

Evidence was introduced during the trial of this case showing that a \$400 withdrawal was made from the joint bank account of ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS at the Riggs National Bank on November 19, 1937. On direct examination Mrs. HISS attempted to explain that the \$400 withdrawal was made in order to purchase furnishings and equipment for the Volta Place residence which they intended to move into about January 1, 1938.

In order to obtain some material for cross examination of Mrs. HISS at the retrial of this case, it has been suggested that that part of Mrs. HISS' testimony, both direct and cross, dealing with the expenditure of this \$400 for household goods, etc. be carefully reviewed. It is believed that a reasonably accurate compilation can be made of these expenditures. When this has been accomplished, it might be advisable to have the Washington Field Office check at some of the antique shops mentioned by PRISCILLA HISS to determine if they have any records of sales to her. It is also possible that since PRISCILLA indicated she had charge accounts at Woodward & Lothrop and some of the other larger department stores, the purchases mentioned by her as being made at antique shops might possibly have been made at these stores, and actually charged to her account. It is, of course, not known whether the records of these department stores would be available at this late date. However, it is believed advisable to at least run these leads out.

lead card made

F. B. I.	
JUL 21 1949	
THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE
Spillane	[initials]

TGS: NJG  
65-14920

Belmont  
DeLoach  
Kelly

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

#6

July 21, 1949

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

RE: A. GEORGE SILVERMAN / POSSIBLE WITNESS

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949 in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

SILVERMAN has appeared before the Grand Jury and has been interviewed on numerous occasions by agents of this office in connection with both the HISS case and the BENTLEY case. In his last appearance before the Grand Jury, he testified that he had received four rugs from WHITTAKER CHAMBERS that he kept one for himself, gave one to HARRY LEXTER WHITE, and subsequently returned the other two to WHITTAKER CHAMBERS. In the first trial of ALGER HISS this information was, of course, available to Mr. MURPHY, but MURPHY had some reluctance to use it because of the fact that SILVERMAN, in his testimony, branded CHAMBERS as a "moocher" and "dead beat" etc. It is believed advisable at this time to review the Grand Jury testimony of SILVERMAN and to summarize the results of interviews of SILVERMAN by agents of this office.

Mr. CONNELLEY has indicated that after this review has been made he may decide to take some further action in connection with SILVERMAN.

THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA

4-125	
F. B. I.	
JUL 21 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	[Signature]

ser up in detail  
just what contacts  
we have had with Silverman  
so far as to determine  
whether further info is  
desirable

EJG

Belmont  
Donohue

check as to  
see he said  
to who did he  
loan him  
money  
etc

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

(2) Setup  
to other address  
There was  
not disputed  
testimony of  
Mrs. Hiss.

# 7

July 21, 1949

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

RE: THE LEASE ON VOLTA PLACE (1)

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949 in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

As has been pointed out on many, many occasions, the residency of ALGER HISS at Volta Place during January, February and March of 1938 has been one of the focal points of the entire investigation. Mrs. CHAMBERS, ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS and a contractor all gave lengthy testimony regarding the location and physical setup both inside and out of this residence. ALGER HISS in his testimony, probably in an effort to bolster the testimony of his wife in connection with the purchase of material for this residence some months prior to their actual residing there, indicated that he had "a commitment" in November of 1937 for leasing this place starting January 1, 1938. He also gave testimony to the effect that the house was vacant several months prior to the time they moved in.

The contractor testified as to changes that were made in taking out a large tree and terracing the property after the removal of the tree, all undoubtedly in an effort to counteract the damaging testimony of Mr. and Mrs. CHAMBERS.

It is suggested, therefore, that the testimony of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and his wife, ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS and the contractor be carefully reviewed, and that all information appearing in our files concerning the Volta Place residence be carefully reviewed, and thereafter appropriate leads set out to determine what, if any, commitment HISS had from the real estate agent prior to signing the lease; whether the house was actually vacant prior to January 1, 1938, and the actual date of the work done by the contractor and what, if any, physical changes resulted therefrom.

See also  
testimony  
of  
Mr. Hiss

TGS: NJG  
65-14920

THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA JUL 21 1949  
N. Y. C.

F. B. I.  
ROUTED TO  
FILE

Belmont  
St. John  
D. Spencer



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York

0  
2

locate apartment  
inquiry by W.  
of the contractor  
(prior to or during  
trial)

#8

July 21, 1949

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

RE: WHAT WAS THE COLOR OF THE 30TH  
STREET HOUSE?

Lead enclosed  
M. J. W. 10/1/49 OK

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949 in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

During the progress of the trial considerable testimony was given by Mr. and Mrs. CHAMBERS and Mr. and Mrs. HISS regarding the physical appearance of the various residences of the HISS', both as to the exterior and interior of these homes. Of particular significance was the fact that Mrs. CHAMBERS, in describing the 30th Street house, stated it was painted white, while Mrs. HISS and an architect testified that the house was painted yellow.

Prior to the commencement of the trial, SARAH W. S. MILLER of Box 3334, R.R. 1, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, mailed copies of five letters concerning the various residences of the HISS family. These letters all resulted from a letter dated April 13, 1949 signed by ALGER HISS and directed to JOHN H. B. GILLIAT of Washington, D. C.

It was suggested that the attached copies be reviewed and compared with the testimony of Mr. and Mrs. CHAMBERS and Mr. and Mrs. HISS and the architect. In the event that this review and comparison indicates the necessity for an interview with Mrs. MILLER, appropriate leads should be set out to conduct whatever investigation seems necessary in this regard.

THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA

JUL 21 1949

N. Y. C.

RON P. JO [initials]

at 1245 - 30th St. and  
the house owned by  
Rev. Benjamin [initials]  
Spencer 6-15-49 4127

TGS:NJG  
65-14920

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

July 21, 1949

#9

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

RE: COPIES OF STATE DEPARTMENT DOCUMENTS,  
HOW MANY, AND TO WHOM

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949 in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

During the trial it was brought out on the direct examination of Mr. ANDERSON of the State Department that quite a few copies of Government documents were sent to various officials and department heads in the State Department. The defense attempted to show through witnesses that, as Mr. MURPHY put it, everyone, including the charwoman, got a copy of everything. Considerable investigation has been conducted in connection with the number of copies of documents made and to whom they were directed, and this information was obtained principally from Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. FEURFOY and Mr. SCOTT, all of the State Department. It is suggested that the files be reviewed to determine what the above mentioned individuals said concerning the number of documents made and the various office rules that were changed from time to time in connection with the number and distribution of copies of Government documents.

If sufficient information is not located in the files, the appropriate leads should be set out so that it can be definitely ascertained, particularly during the pertinent period, the precise manner in which copies of Government documents were handled in the State Department.

THOMAS G. SPENCER,

SA

F. B. I.

4128  
JUL 21 1949

N. Y. C.

ROUTED TO

FILED

TGS:NJG  
65-14920

*Belmont*  
*Tracy*  
*Spencer*

*Lead in  
mail*

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

#10

July 21, 1949

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

RE: CARNEGIE FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949 in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

Subsequent to CHAMBERS' revelation of ALGER HISS' activities in connection with the Communist spy ring when he testified before the House Un-American Activities Committee, the trustees of the Carnegie Foundation became somewhat alarmed because of the fact that HISS was president of this foundation, and some steps were taken in connection with HISS' position.

WILLIAM MARSHALL BULLITT, who is very favorably disposed toward the Government, was of considerable help in this connection. JOHN FOSTER DULLIES testified somewhat reluctantly as to the manner in which HISS obtained his position with the foundation, what preliminary investigation was conducted and what active steps were taken on behalf of the foundation in refusing and later accepting ALGER HISS' resignation.

Mr. MURPHY is of the opinion that substantially more information can be obtained concerning HISS' actual appointment as president, who selected him, what investigation was conducted prior to offering him the position, and particularly what transpired as the result of CHAMBERS' expose'.

It is suggested, therefore, that all of the information supplied by BULLITT and the testimony of JOHN FOSTER DULLIES be reviewed and thereafter a list of the trustees, particularly those who were at the dinner that DULLIES referred to in his testimony, be obtained and consideration be given to interviewing one or several of these trustees in order that we may present a complete picture of ALGER HISS' connection with the foundation from the day he started to the date of his resignation.

TGS:NJG  
65-14920

*W. J. ...*

*Belmont*  
*Tracy*

THOMAS G. SPENCER, SA

F. B. I.	
JUL 22 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, N. Y.**

*Connelly*

MR. BELMONT
MR. WHELAN
MR. DESS
MR. GRANVILLE
MR. HANCOCK
MR. KUNZ
MR. MAHONEY
MR. MOYNIHAN
NIGHT SUPERVISOR
MR. QUINN
MR. SHANNON
MR. TOLSON
MR. WATSON
PROPERTY CLERK
TRAINING UNIT

August 4, 1949

**MEMORANDUM:**

Re: JAHAM

HEDE MASSING a few weeks ago indicated to the writer that she was disturbed by statements appearing in the papers which attributed to HISS' attorney, LLOYD PAUL STRYKER, a remark that she, Mrs. MASSING, was a "disreputable individual." She stated further that a short while after this statement appeared, her husband, PAUL MASSING, told her that the matter had been brought up to him by ROGER BALDWIN, prominent New York attorney associated with the American Civil Liberties Union. Mr. BALDWIN is now, and has been for a number of years, a close personal friend of the MASSINGS. At that time BALDWIN told PAUL MASSING that HEDE should get an attorney to represent her in the event she was to be called as a witness at the retrial in the HISS case. BALDWIN further stated that he would recommend as an attorney ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS, who he felt sure would represent Mrs. MASSING without charge.

At the time Mrs. MASSING brought the issue up to the writer, I advised her that if she wanted she could get an attorney, but that it was not clear as to just how an attorney would be of assistance to her in the event of a retrial, inasmuch as if she was on the stand as a witness her interests would undoubtedly be adequately protected by the prosecuting United States Attorney. Mrs. MASSING indicated that she agreed that hiring of an attorney would probably be useless inasmuch as he would be unable to represent her once she was on the stand as a witness.

Today Mrs. MASSING advised the writer and Special Agent William J. McCarthy that about one week ago she received a letter from BALDWIN. The letter itself was on stationery of the Town Hall, though it was in an envelope of the American Civil Liberties Union. The letter was to the effect that BALDWIN strongly recommended Mrs. MASSING acquire the services of an attorney to represent her. BALDWIN went on to state he felt that a competent attorney would be able to go to Assistant United States Attorney Thomas Murphy and convince Murphy that Mrs. MASSING should not be used as a witness in any retrial of HISS. Later BALDWIN went on to state that he was sure ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS would be willing to represent Mrs. MASSING without any cost to her, though he, BALDWIN, had not discussed the matter with HAYS.

JMO:M:RAA  
65-14920

*This may be an effort to trip up the witness  
give E.J.C. Admin. Donagan + Murphy*

65-14920-4143

F. B. I.	
AUG 4 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO <i>Spencer</i>	FILE <i>7</i>

New York, N. Y.

JMO'M:RAA  
65-14920

Mrs. MASSING states that she knows that ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS is the Director of Town Hall, and suspects strongly that the letter was written by BALDWIN when he was in HAYS' company; further, she has been told by her husband that HAYS is a close friend of LLOYD PAUL STRYKER, the attorney for HISS.

Mrs. MASSING states that this all adds up to a strong suspicion on her part that the HISS attorneys desire to eliminate her as a witness in the event of a retrial.

J. M. O'MARA,  
Special Agent

JMO'M:RAA

*Original  
Bureau*

New York, New York

...MR. GARDNER
...MR. BELMONT
...MR. WHELAN
...MR. DESS
...MR. GRANVILLE
...MR. HANCOCK
...MR. KURTZ
...MR. MARSHALL
...MR. MOHR
...NIGHT SUPERVISOR
...MR. QUINN
...MR. SHANNON
...MR. TERRY
...MR. WATSON
...PROPERTY CLERK
...TRAINING UNIT

MEMO

Re: **ALGER HISS**  
**INTERNAL SECURITY - R**

Supplementing leads outlined as a result of conference with Special Assistant to the Attorney General T. J. Donegan and Assistant United States Attorney T. F. Murphy with the agents of the New York Office and myself, and as reflected in the memorandum of SA Thomas G. Spencer dated July 21, 1949, to which was attached an individual memorandum as to leads to be covered, and as further based on examination of the files and transcripts (see my letters to the Director dated July 26th and July 28th, 1949 covering leads to Los Angeles, San Diego and Washington Field), the following additional matters will be considered for early investigative attention.

(A) During the trial of this matter, a number of matters were run out as to which reports had not as yet been prepared and such reports should be prepared at an early date. Where other offices have to conduct such an investigation and have not submitted a report, they should be immediately requested to do so.

This material should be divided as to the subject matter, such as, the references to the typewriter, residence of the HISSSES during the summer of 1937 in Chestertown, Md., the location of the Woodstock Typewriter Company at 1000 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., and 1528 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., as well as any prior addresses of such which are material to show, particularly, that the typewriter was taken to this place for repair in 1938, and at the earliest date, possibly May 1, 1938, although it appears this was subsequent to the date of September 15, 1938.

(B) Inasmuch as the work pertaining to ALGER HISS in this file is now confined to certain definite leads and leads stemming out of these leads, it would be well, in an early report in this file, to make a recapitulation of all the undeveloped leads still pending, either at New York or in other offices, and at suitable intervals thereafter, there should be a recapitulation of these leads in order that a determination of how the investigation is going will be known from time to time.

EJC:MRW  
65-14920

*(6) cc to New York*

65-14920-4153

*T. F. Murphy* FBI

*MacRidgill* 1949

N. Y. C.

ROUTED TO: *For action*

MEMO  
NY 65-14920

(C) If there are any other particular individuals growing out of this situation who have not been made the subject of separate files, then this should now be done. This work should be accomplished in order that we may direct a definite investigation in the future as towards these individual situations which do not concern the trial for perjury of ALGER HISS.

As to the leads pending in other offices, provided the offices have not done so, in the next report submitted by them they should indicate any and all leads still pending for attention in their office and thereafter they should pursue these to an early conclusion. In the future any recapitulation of leads pending in the matter of ALGER HISS as concerns this particular file, such should include any and all leads pending here or elsewhere in other offices.

(9) In connection with the residence of CHAMBERS and wife at Baltimore, and the possibility of developing information which would refute the testimony of Mrs. HISS and ALGER HISS to the effect that they had never at any time visited with the CHAMBERS at their home in Baltimore, there should be a review of the file for any possibility of developing other information which would locate the maids employed by Mrs. CHAMBERS, namely, EDITH and EVELYN. There has been considerable effort made to locate these individuals but due to the importance of their possible testimony in that they might be able to identify either or both HISS and wife as visiting at the home of the CHAMBERS, further efforts should be made to locate them.

In connection with the above, it is noted that CHAMBERS lived at 903 St. Paul Street, Baltimore from about August, 1934 to the Spring of 1935 as Mr. and Mrs. LLOYD CANTWELL; that Miss BERTHA TYSON, Dental Agent, F.C.T.U., lived on the second floor and operated the office of the F.C.T.U. on the first floor; CHAMBERS, his wife, and baby, occupied the third floor. CHAMBERS supposedly gave as much of the furniture as he had acquired at this address to Miss TYSON when leaving to avoid expense of moving same to Washington. HISS supposedly came to this address and moved the baby's things to Washington at the time the CHAMBERS moved into 2831 28th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

(6) In this same connection, CHAMBERS and wife lived at 1617 Eutaw Place, Baltimore, as Mr. and Mrs. LLOYD CANTWELL, from October, 1935 to early 1936. In this same house, in a separate apartment, there were living two sisters. HISS and wife supposedly visited here, and while the CHAMBERS were living here they supposedly had a maid by the name of EDITH. It is alleged that ALGER HISS probably brought to this place certain things given to CHAMBERS and wife, such as, a drop-leaf table and an over-stuffed chair. Mrs. HISS while visiting with Mrs. CHAMBERS in the park supposedly met a nurse, whom Mrs. CHAMBERS introduced to Mrs. HISS under a fictitious name. The 1936 Directory listed LLOYD CANTWELL, Apartment C, 1617 Eutaw Place. Also, the son of the owner, CHARLES E. JACKSON, probably has records indicating the CANTWELLS.

MEMO

NY 65-14920

were in Apartment C from October 2, 1935 to June 27, 1936.

In this same connection, the CHAMBERS also lived at 3310 Auchentoroly Terrace, Baltimore, as JAY CHAMBERS from March, 1937 to December, 1937, and HISS and wife supposedly visited them here. They supposedly had a maid by the name of EVELYN. The telephone directory for October, 1937 lists JAY CHAMBERS at 3310 Auchentoroly Terrace. (Serial 3681) Teletype from Baltimore, 6/13/49, indicates the gas and electric service to CHAMBERS while living under the name of JAY CHAMBERS at 3310 Auchentoroly Terrace from March 30, 1937 to October 25, 1937.

Also in this connection, the above gas and electric company records indicate CHAMBERS as at 2124 Mount Royal Terrace effective October 25, 1937 to April 9, 1938. Also, this same service indicates him at the west side of Old Court Road, Woodlawn, Maryland, residence of FRANK BUCK near Pikesville, Maryland, telephone application April 12, 1938 which was continued to June 30, 1938. Also, telephone application June 30, 1938 shows him at 2610 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, this being effective June 30, 1938 and continued to June 15, 1939.

In connection with the residence of CHAMBERS at 2124 Mount Royal Terrace, supposedly in early 1937 to April, 1938, they had the maid EVELYN with them. They lived here as JAY CHAMBERS and family. They had rented out the third floor here to a Mr. and Mrs. NELSON, who had been interviewed as to their knowledge of the CHAMBERS and the maid EVELYN, as well as other members of Mr. and Mrs. NELSON's family. Peculiar to the interview of Mr. and Mrs. NELSON and the interview of the mother of Mrs. NELSON, Mrs. FRANK V. MOALE, she stated that CHAMBERS and wife lived there with a daughter, four years of age, and a boy, one year of age; that Mrs. CHAMBERS taught at the Park School; that her daughter, Mrs. LINOCH NELSON, resided on the third floor in the CHAMBERS' home, from January to April, 1938; that she was a neighbor of HISS when she was living at 1512 Linden Avenue, and she knew of HISS from 1908 to 1930, who lived at 1427 Linden Avenue. She indicated that she had not seen HISS or his brother DONALD in the last twenty years and could not identify a picture of PRISCILLA HISS. These people knew of the maid, EVELYN, but apparently could furnish no definite information as to how she could be located.

The transcript in the trial of ALGER HISS, page 2285, shows, in connection with the testimony of Mrs. PRISCILLA HISS, that when she testified before the Grand Jury she stated she had the Fensler Woodstock typewriter, referring to same as the "big typewriter", after they had moved to Volta Place. This would be between December 29, 1937 and October, 1943; that she had disposed of this by giving same to the Salvation Army or throwing it out as junk. But, in her testimony at this time in the trial of this case, she indicated she was, in fact, thinking of a portable typewriter purchased in the Fall of 1937 and which they had when moving to Volta Place. She indicated that



MEMO

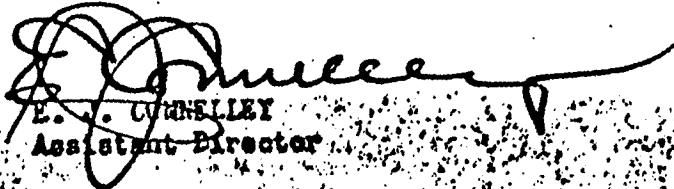
NY 65-14920

this latter typewriter was the one she believed she gave to the Salvation Army in 1943. She advised that after disposing of this portable typewriter they obtained another portable typewriter, which they still have.

This would place them in the possession of this portable typewriter at the time of writing the questioned documents in this case, and this portable typewriter may have been the typewriter used in the preparation of Laboratory Q5 of the questioned documents.

Mrs. HISS testified on cross examination, page 2358, that she got the portable typewriter in 1937 from a regular second-hand dealer, whom she believes was located either on 14th or 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., quite a few blocks north of "I"; that it was a portable Corona as she got this for TIMMIE's sake for his use; that she paid \$25.00 or so for it; that TIMMIE used it; that she used it; it was not a new machine but was better than the Woodstock.

All references to any check as to locating this particular portable should be checked in the file and further possible efforts made to develop leads which would locate this typewriter, if still in existence, and particularly for identification as against Document 45.

  
E. J. CONNELLEY  
Assistant Director

New York, New York

*Original + 100  
to Bureau 8/4/49  
EJS*

MR. BELMONT	✓
MR. MOHR	
MR. WHELAN	
MR. TOLSON	
MR. CLEGG	
MR. GLAVIN	
MR. LADD	
MR. NICHOLS	
MR. ROSEN	
MR. TRACY	
MR. HARBO	
MR. MOYNIHAN	
MR. SUPERVISOR	
MR. QUINN	
MR. SHANNON	
MR. TERRY	
MR. WATSON	
PROPERTY CLERK	
TRAINING UNIT	

August 4, 1949

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY, ESPIONAGE-R,  
INTERNAL SECURITY-R

Reference my memorandum dated August 3, 1949 outlining leads to locate the former maids of Mrs. CHAMBERS, namely, EDITH and EVELYN employed at their homes when living in Baltimore, in the possibility that they might be able to place Mr. and Mrs. HISS in the presence of CHAMBERS and wife, as has been alleged by the latter and denied by HISS and wife. This also covers the lead to locate the Corona Portable Typewriter purchased by Mrs. HISS in 1937 and disposed of in 1943.

On August 3, 1949 in conference of myself and Special Agents Albert J. Tuohy, Thomas J. McAndrews, Joseph M. Kelly, Donald E. Shannon, John F. Sullivan, Robert F. X. O'Keefe, Thomas G. Spencer, Lawrence H. Bracken, James P. Martin, Francis J. Callant and Lawrence W. Spillane, the leads in this case were discussed and additional matters considered, as well as all leads previously set out in the memoranda for the file resulting from conferences with Assistant United States Attorney Thomas F. Murphy and Special Assistant to the Attorney General Thomas J. Donegan.

The individual leads as covered previously by reference in the memorandum of SA Thomas G. Spencer dated July 21, 1949 were covered in detail as to each individual lead and the investigation is proceeding as to these situations.

The following situations were considered for action as indicated hereinafter.

In an examination of the testimony of ALGER and PRISCILIA HISS a particular check should be made wherein they may have differed as to when and how they saw CHAMBERS.

As to AUGUST FELIX INSIERMAN and his possible testimony as to using his

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AUG 9 1949
N. Y. C.
Bracken
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*W. J. McA*

EJO:MRW  
65-14920

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MEMO

NY 65-14920

camera in photographing the documents which were presented in the trial of this case, it is doubtful that we will be able to get him to say anything more than previously. He refused to testify on the advice of his attorney because of the fact that it might incriminate him and it is doubtful we will be able to get him to change his position. There appears to be something which may be concerning INSLERMAN which we do not know of and which might be some act within the statutes of limitations. It is also possible that he is reluctant to testify because of embarrassment in his future employment. This will be considered with the Assistant United States Attorney and the Special Assistant to the Attorney General as to any ideas they may have inasmuch as they handled INSLERMAN before the Grand Jury. It is noted in the trial of this case that we had a stipulation as to what he would testify to, namely, that his camera had been used to make certain Government documents, which, of course, was more than he would have testified to judging by his prior actions.

It was suggested that further inquiry be made by the New Haven office to develop information as to where CHAMBERS, and HISS and wife stopped supposedly at Thomaston, Connecticut in August, 1937, which inquiry previously was ineffective. The file will be reviewed and further requests made of New Haven to possibly locating the place in connection.

For the benefit of SA Joseph M. Kelly who was not present at the conference with Assistant United States Attorney Murphy and Special Assistant to the Attorney General Donegan as concerns the possible action to bring about some disposition of the libel action of CHAMBERS at Baltimore, it is noted that the Assistant United States Attorney and the Special Assistant to the Attorney General have in mind to confer with attorney CLEVELAND representing CHAMBERS, as to what his ideas are as to any action which might be taken before the next possible trial of ALGER HISS. It might be desirable to arrange to have HISS and wife examined in a pre-trial deposition and thus place them on record again as to what their position is as to denying the allegations of CHAMBERS. This, of course, will depend upon the ability of Mr. CLEVELAND to handle this and know of the facts which would be desirable for questioning of HISS and wife. If this matter was pushed to trial, we would, of course, always have the possibility that the verdict might be in favor of HISS and this would not improve our position in the trial of HISS at his retrial expected in the Fall of 1949.

In connection with all investigation pursued in the future, we should endeavor to obtain additional typewriting specimens from the HISS' Woodstock typewriter subsequent to the specimen we have of May 27, 1937. This, of course, would place the typewriter in their possession at such time of any latter specimens, which was made the subject of argument by the defense previously to the effect that no further specimens than May 27, 1937 would be found inasmuch as HISS and wife had

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York

(11A)

July 26, 1949

MEMO

2 A  
11A

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE-R;  
INTERNAL SECURITY- R

The following is indicated to supplement the references set out in memorandum of SA Thomas G. Spencer, 7/21/49, as referring to the investigation necessary for the retrial of ALGER HISS, and the individual memorandums submitted by him in this same subject matter.

It is noted that Assistant United States Attorney has indicated a desire that full and complete specimens of the typewriting be prepared from the Woodstock typewriter of ALGER HISS, which the defense produced in evidence in the first trial of this matter and which typewriter has been <sup>in bonded</sup> ~~involved~~, and is now in the possession of the United States Court Clerk, Southern District of New York.

The typewriting specimens should be in complete detail and very liberally taken in accordance with instructions contained in the manual as to how and what specimens should be taken for a full and complete examination of the typewriting from this typewriter with any and all questioned documents available in the ALGER HISS case, as well as the known specimens previously used in the trial of this case.

The agents who will arrange to take these specimens should do so in the presence of the Clerk of the United States District Court or his representative as the custodian thereof, in order that we will be in the position to refute any allegations of any tampering with the typewriter itself as concerns this present condition.

During the examination made in taking these specimens, there should be noted any peculiarities which manifests themselves in connection with the operation of the typewriter in order that these data may be available for future reference.

EJC:MKV  
65-14920

Belmont  
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W. B. ...

MEMO

NY 65-14920

It is possible the ribbon on this may not function properly or it may have deteriorated so that it may not make satisfactory specimens at this time, and if so careful attention should be had to the necessity of supplying a ribbon in order that this will be done in such a manner as can not be taken as the possibility of changing the condition of the typewriter itself. It will be desirable to take such specimens as can be taken with the typewriter as is, without changing the ribbon, and then to take the necessary specimens with a ribbon which has been supplied, if the latter is necessary.

#11  
As to the further inquiry which may be necessary to establish the temporary residence of ALGER HISS and his wife at Chestertown, Md., and the visit of them with CHAMBERS to Peterborough, New Hampshire about August 10, 1937, reference should be had to the checks cashed by HISS, as reflected by a transcript of his bank account at the Riggs National Bank, Washington, D.C., wherein it is indicated a \$90.00 check, July 21, 1937, and particularly check of \$15.00 August 16, 1937, and August 17, 1937 ~~\$35.00~~ \$35.00 ~~check~~, which latter two checks might be traced through the banks at Peterborough or the points where HISS, CHAMBERS and MRS. HISS stopped while on this trip, particularly if they forwarded same by a cash letter or if they have a Recordak. It is not believed we will be able to identify these checks through clearing house transactions, but all possibilities should be exhausted to determine if such is the case. It is to be noted that these checks may have been cashed at Chestertown or used in payment of expenses while there, these being the dates they were actually charged to the accounts of HISS.

*W.C. ...*

E. J. CONNELLEY  
Assistant Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

#3

July 21, 1949

MEMO

Re: JAHAM  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

RE: TYPEWRITING ERRORS NOTED ON  
BALTIMORE PAPERS AND KNOWN  
TYPING OF PRISCILLA HISS

Reference is made to the writer's memorandum of July 21, 1949, in connection with the further investigation of this case for possible use in the retrial in the fall of this year.

On July 7, 1949, FREDERICK GAFFNEY, one of the jurors in the HISS case, voluntarily appeared at the office of AUSA MURPHY, at which time he talked over the reaction of the jurors to the various evidence that was offered. The writer and SA J. J. DANAHY were also present at the request of Mr. MURPHY.

GAFFNEY stated that one observation noted by VINCENT H. SHAW, another juror, might be of some benefit in preparation of the retrial of this case. According to GAFFNEY, SHAW observed that there were several typing errors in the Bryn Mawr letter that also appeared on the questioned documents, and in his effort to convince the four jurors who held for acquittal, pointed these common errors out, of course, however, with no avail. It will be recalled that early in the investigation of this case, a thesis written by PRISCILLA HISS and her sister was obtained from Columbia University, and it was noted at that time that there were numerous strike overs and other errors in this thesis that also appear in the Bryn Mawr report and the questioned documents. These facts were pointed out to the Bureau with the hope that possibly a sufficient number of these errors could be found in the known specimens and questioned documents that would enable someone to so testify. These examinations were made by the Laboratory and a report was submitted, indicating that it would be impossible for an expert to testify to the fact that because of the similar or common errors it followed that PRISCILLA HISS actually typed the questioned documents.

Mr. MURPHY now desires that a complete review of these common errors be made as he feels that although he probably will not be able to use this information on the Government's case in chief, he might be able to point it out in summation.

TGS:NJB  
65-14920

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*Handwritten signatures:* Belmont, Donkey

65-14920-4122

F. B. I.	
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N. Y. C.	
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MEMO

NY 65-14920

disposed of the typewriter at about that time.

In conversation with SA Sullivan, Assistant United States Attorney Murphy has considered the possibility of preparing a digest of the testimony of ALGER HISS in the trial of this case and comparing each individual item therein which has any substantial factual possibility with the testimony of HISS before the House Un-American Activities Committee and the Grand Jury in the Southern District of New York for use in cross examination of HISS. This, of course, would require considerable work and close scrutiny of the various matters discussed in order to work out these differences, some of which, however, were brought out in the examination of HISS in his first trial. It is noted that in the examinations the definite subject matter has not always been too well defined. This will be considered with the Assistant United States Attorney as to whether we can assist him in what he has in mind as to this.

It is noted in the report of SA Mehlonf Celler, dated July 15, 1949 at Detroit, that PRISCILLA HISS supposedly told CATHERINE HOBSON "today I joined the Communist Party." This is the sister of THAYER HOBSON, the first husband of PRISCILLA HISS. This woman will be interviewed for a possibility of obtaining information to the above effect from her.

Teletypes of New York and Boston, July 4, 1949, refer to the situation wherein MABEL OLEHILL supposedly obtained information from ESTHER OILBERT, who supposedly obtained her information from the ex-wife of GERHARDT EISLER, probably first name HEIDI, to the effect that the ex-Mrs. EISLER knew ALGER HISS had a Communist Party membership card. HEIDI MASSEY will be interviewed as to what she had in mind as to this situation.

Teletype from Boston dated July 6, 1949 indicated an informant stated CHAMBERS had visited BARBARA KERN and ARTHUR SCHLESINGER, JR. before he appeared before the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the disclosures as to the pumpkin papers, and told them that HISS was a Communist; that BARBARA KERN had known HISS and CHAMBERS in Washington, D.C. CHAMBERS will be interviewed as to just who these people are and what association he has had with them.

Teletype dated July 7, 1949, New York, requested the interview of ELIZABETH NOWELL, now Mrs. ELIZABETH PERKINS, who was supposedly relieved as secretary for MAXIM LIEBER, by one CHARLOTTE. Subsequent inquiry indicated that Mrs. PERKINS apparently could not give this information as to the location or identity of CHARLOTTE.

MEMO  
NY 65-14920

Further effort will be made to locate CHARLOTTE as she might be in a position to furnish information as to the alleged appearance of LIEBER at the cottage of Mrs. CHAMBERS, and to which Mrs. HISS supposedly appeared at Smithtown, and which Mrs. HISS has denied. As there probably was some intimate relationship existing between CHARLOTTE and LIEBER, she might be inclined to furnish information if she knew of any association between LIEBER and Mrs. HISS, as above stated.

Letter of the Miami Office dated July 12, 1949 refers to the supposed statement of Mrs. LUDWIG LORE, widow of the former editor of the New York Post, now residing in Brooklyn, New York, in which she claims CHAMBERS supposedly had the documents hidden somewhere else than in Brooklyn and the pumpkin. CHAMBERS will be interviewed as to his knowledge of the allegations put forth by Mrs. LORE.

Memorandum for the file indicates that former Confidential Informant CIND 458, Miss LEE MARION, says that in conversation with Mrs. MORTY MARKS, with whom she is familiar, having been a partner with her in the operation of the Actors Thrift Shop on West 44th Street, and also having been aware of Mrs. MARKS' connection with the Communist Party, MARKS supposedly told her of her association with PRISCILLA HISS. It is alleged that Mrs. MARKS took over the part-time job of teaching at the Dalton School when it was necessary for PRISCILLA HISS to give this up due to the trial of ALGER HISS, and that subsequently she arranged for her to obtain the full-time teaching job at the Dalton School; that Mrs. MARKS believes HISS to be innocent. By reference to the memorandum of SA Edward W. Buckley in this matter, a check will be made to determine just what this set-up is at the Dalton School and as to whether or not there is any truth in the statements attributed to Mrs. MARKS, particularly as to whether or not she is employed as a teacher at this school and just how she obtained that employment. This should be discreet and carried out in such a manner as not to interfere with our obtaining information. Miss LEE MARION believes that if MARKS if confronted might tell what she knows of her associations with PRISCILLA HISS. Such later interview will be dependent upon the information as subsequently developed.

In further discussion of the inquiry to be made at Chestertown and vicinity, efforts should be made to locate any persons with whom the HISSSES may have been in association and with whom they may have spent one or more days during their supposed residence at the apartments of Mrs. WICKES during July and August, 1937. An informant has indicated to the office that HISS has a number of relatives in this general vicinity with whom they might have visited and both ALGER HISS and DONALD HISS have frequently been in that area. This should be carefully considered in connection with memorandum of Supervisor Tuohy dated July 21, 1949, concerning information furnished by NORMA ABRAHAM, reporter of New York News, who is acquainted in that area. It is believed, however, that the Baltimore office should be able to identify any relatives in that area of the HISS brothers, particularly in surrounding small communities, where, by inquiry, we might locate persons to show that they had visited with these relatives during the time they were supposedly residing in the WICKES apartments at Chestertown.

  
E. J. CONNELLEY  
Assistant Director



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: 8/9/49

*JAR*

FROM : SAC, KNOXVILLE

SUBJECT: JAHAM  
PERJURY  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Reurlet to Bureau dated August 5, 1949.

No confidential informants located in Knoxville territory possessing information on Communist activities and associates of ALGER HISS.

RUC.

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FBI - NEW YORK  
AUG 11 1949  
*ucf*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York

DATE: August 9, 1949

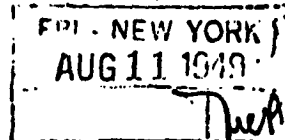
*NV* FROM : SAC, IndianapolisSUBJECT: JAHAM  
PERJURY  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)  
(New York File 65-14920)

Re New York letter to the Director dated August 5, 1949.

A review of the files of this office indicates that there is no information therein which has not been previously developed and made the subject of a report.

With regard to Item No. 1 of your letter, this office at present has no informants available who were members of the Communist Party in the late 1930's.

Should any information concerning this matter come to the attention of the Indianapolis Office, a report shall be submitted forthwith.

HAK:a  
65-2027

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington Field

SUBJECT: JAHAM

DATE: August 10, 1949

*Handwritten initials/signature*

Re nyfile 65-14920 and letter from Assistant Director E. J. CONNELLY to Director dated July 26, 1949, which requested that the records of the W & J Sloane Furniture Store, Washington, D. C., be reviewed for information concerning purchases made by ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS during November and December, 1937.

These records were reviewed and no data relating to any purchases made by the HISSSES in 1937 could be located.

Information was developed that prior to April, 1948, the New York Office of this store at 575 - Fifth Avenue, New York City, was furnished with complete data relating to sales, including copies of contracts and sales slips. Although it is the policy of the store to retain records of sales for seven years, it is felt that a check of the records maintained by Sloane in New York should be made as HISS may have made purchases from Sloane after moving to New York. If purchases were made by HISS since moving to New York, his account at the Sloane store may contain a prior history of his purchases made from the Washington store.

New York is therefore requested to contact Mr. BEN GERSEN, Credit Manager, Sloane Company, New York City, and determine if any data relating to purchases made by the HISSSES is available for November and December, 1937.

New York is also requested to interview FRANK FORESTER, 402 - 75th Street, Brooklyn, New York. FORESTER is the brother of ANNE F. HINSON, who operated an antique shop at 1503 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington, D. C., for 15 years prior to 1946 when she was committed to St. Elizabeth's Hospital, a local mental institution. HINSON died in this hospital May 23, 1948.

FORESTER should be interviewed for information concerning the disposition of HINSON's records after her commitment. Interview should be conducted in accordance with reference letter of July 26, 1949.

FJD:cl  
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65-14920-4167  
FBI - NEW YORK  
AUG 11 1949

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# THE WAYWARD PROCS

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE JURY

**T**HE trial of Alger Hiss, which produced some of the best and some of the worst newspaper copy of our time, inspired none more effective than an account by John Chabot Smith, in the *Herald Tribune* of Saturday, July 9th, of how the jurors reached their final disagreement. Mr. Smith, basing his story of the scene on talks with two of the eight jurors who voted for conviction, wrote:

A documents expert called as a witness by the government had testified that the spy papers had been typed on the Woodstock machine [once owned by the Hisses], and the defense had contested this evidence solely by testimony that the machine was not in Mr. Hiss's possession and was not being used at the time. The defense had not called a documents expert of its own to dispute the government expert's testimony, nor had either side considered the question whether the same person had typed both the spy papers and the "standards of comparison"—letters admittedly typed by Mrs. Hiss on the same machine. This question the jury settled for themselves. [Here Mr. Smith discovered a peculiar aspect of the case that, so far as I am aware, eluded the other reporters.] During the last hour of their deliberation, according to two of the jurors who voted for conviction, the jurors studied the typewriter, the spy papers, and the standards. They observed many instances of similarity between the standards and the spy papers indicating that they had actually been typed by the same person—such as the same slips of the finger occurring again and again, and the same habit of crossing out errors by overprinting a certain letter. When this was demonstrated, these two jurors said, all the eight who were against Mr. Hiss solidified in their determination not to acquit him. Even the four who wanted to acquit Mr. Hiss had to admit that he or his wife might have typed the papers, they said. But these four still clung to the conviction that there might still be some other explanation of the way the papers fell into Mr. Chambers' hands; that even if Mrs. Hiss typed them Mr. Hiss might not have given them to Mr. Chambers for espionage purposes. When the eight saw that the four would not recede from their doubts, they gave up arguing any further, the two jurors said.

This passage was in the second-page runover of Mr. Smith's lead story on the ending of the trial. Also on page 2 of the *Tribune* was a story headed "HISS JURORS TELL OF LONG HOURS OF WRANGLING." This quoted Mrs. Helen Sweatt, a real-estate broker and one of the jurors who voted for conviction, as saying, "We tried

the typewriter out and went over the documents. We took a long time tonight because we went over the documents again, word by word."

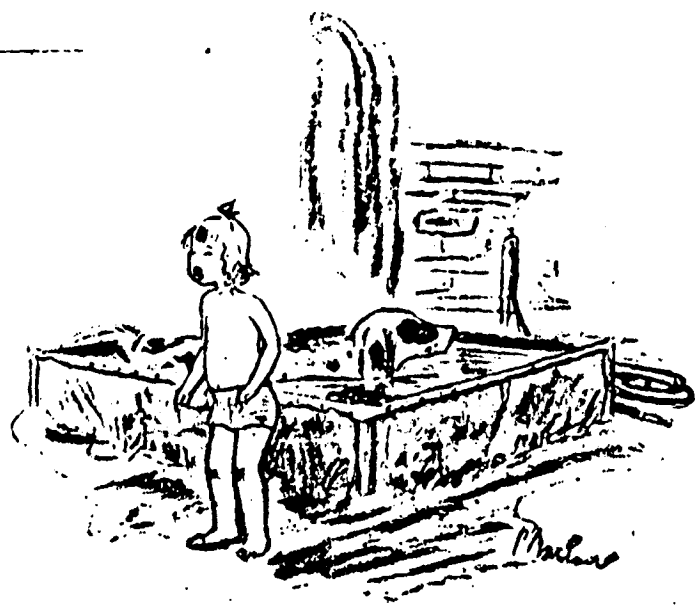
A box on the same page carried the information that during the trial the government had called 43 witnesses and the defense 30, the government had introduced 224 exhibits and the defense 33, and a total of 2,851 pages of testimony, running to 570,000 words, had been transcribed. After doing its best to evaluate the significance of all this, the jury had tried, it seemed, to decide the case on the basis of a point on which no expert testimony was introduced—the identity of the person who operated the typewriter. I have since read through a transcript of the testimony of Ramos C. Feehan, the government's typewriter man, and confirmed my impression that Mr. Smith's statement of the facts was correct. Mr. Feehan's testimony was no more revealing than Mr. Smith said it was, but it was nevertheless the closest any witness came to helping the jury answer the all-important question. What Mr. Feehan had to say made rather a small ripple on the river of newspaper copy about the case when he was examined on June 16th. It received modest headlines in early editions of the afternoon papers, but these disappeared in later editions. In the morning papers of June 17th it rated only a couple of paragraphs tucked away near the bottom of the lead story, for it was overshadowed by the more dramatic appearance/in court of Henry Julian Wadleigh, the fellow who, following

Feehan on the witness stand, said he had stolen papers from the State Department but didn't know whether or not Mr. Hiss had.

**O**N page 2 of the same day's *Tribune* that carried Mr. Smith's story about the jury there was an intimation, in the form of a statement to the United Press by Congressman Richard M. Nixon, Republican, of California, a member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, that it is un-American not to convict anybody Congressman Nixon doesn't like. Mr. Nixon was quoted as saying that there should be an immediate investigation of Judge Samuel H. Kaufman's conduct of the trial. Judge Kaufman's "prejudice . . . against the prosecution" had been "obvious and apparent," according to the Congressman.

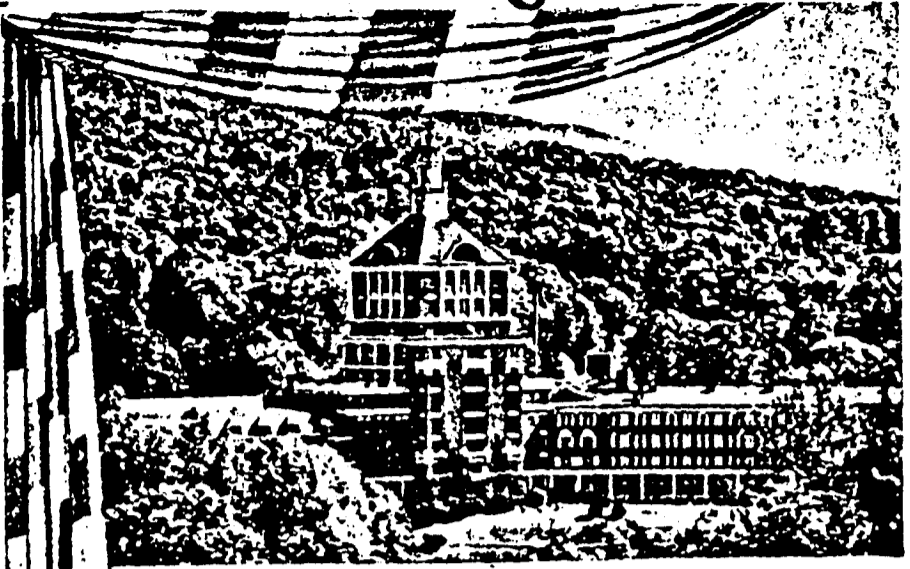
By Saturday afternoon, less than twenty-four hours after the jurors gave up, the *World-Telegram* and the *Journal-American* were devoting eight-column headlines to the attack on Judge Kaufman: "HISS JUDGE PROBE DEMANDED" and "DEMAND CONGRESS PROBE HISS JUDGE 'PREJUDICE,'" respectively. Congressman Nixon, reinforced by a couple of other Republican congressmen, was still doing the demanding.

The jurors, both pro-conviction and pro-acquittal, had by now become public personages. Already, on Friday afternoon, while the jury was still out, the *Journal-American* and the *World-Telegram* had broken a story of how early in the trial the prosecution had complained about one of the jurors, who, however, had remained on the jury. Saturday's papers elaborated: someone had telephoned to the F.B.I. on June 2nd, the second day of the trial, to report a rumor that the wife of the foreman of the jury, Hubert E. James, had told a visitor to a Catholic convalescent home in New Jersey that her husband believed Mr. Hiss innocent. The F.B.I., it was said, relayed the information to Thomas F. Murphy, the prosecutor. Mr. Murphy went to Judge Kaufman in chambers and threw the problem in the jurist's lap. He declined to ask the Judge to remove the juror but



hinted that it would be a nice thing if the Judge did. The Judge didn't, and Mr. Murphy later, during his summation, took pains to warn the members of the jury that they shouldn't let the foreman influence them any more than any other juror. After the dismissal of the jury, it became public knowledge that Mr. James had voted for acquittal, along with two other men and a woman, about whom the prosecution hadn't been tipped off in advance. Mr. James, a tall, prematurely white-haired man, had been welcomed to the jury box by the government on the first day of the trial. I remember that after having been accepted, he himself raised the question of whether his eligibility as a juror would be affected by the fact that he holds a reserve commission in the Army. He was assured by the court, with the tacit approval of counsel for both sides, that it would not. Mr. James is an executive in the General Motors Acceptance Corporation and looks the part. His depravity, from a prosecution point of view, went unexplained until the arrival in New York of the Chicago *Tribune* for Saturday, June 9th, which, in a story about the jurors, carried the subhead "Son of Professor." The foreman's father, the paper reported, was Itoh James, retired head of the department at Northwestern.

most articulate of the pro-conviction jurors—at any rate, after the dismissal—was James F. Hanrahan, an accountant employed by a shipping corporation, who told the *Journal-American* on Saturday that the four acquittal jurors were "so stubborn you could have knocked their heads against the wall and it would have made no difference. The foreman was emotional, two were blockheads, and one was a dope. Eight of us pounded the hell out of the four since Thursday night, but we couldn't get anywhere." Hanrahan, a pale young man with a long chin, had given no indication in the jury box that he was a man of such dynamism. Of the two women on the jury (they voted against each other), Mrs. Sweatt, the real-estate broker, was the more specific as well as the more talkative. She said she had been unable to believe that Mrs. Whittaker Chambers was lying, because Mrs. Chambers had testified in such detail about the interior of the Hiss' home. The other woman juror, Mrs. Louise Torian, a dress-maker, confined herself to generalities. "We just didn't see things the same way," she said. Two of the pro-conviction jurors said that they had been antag-



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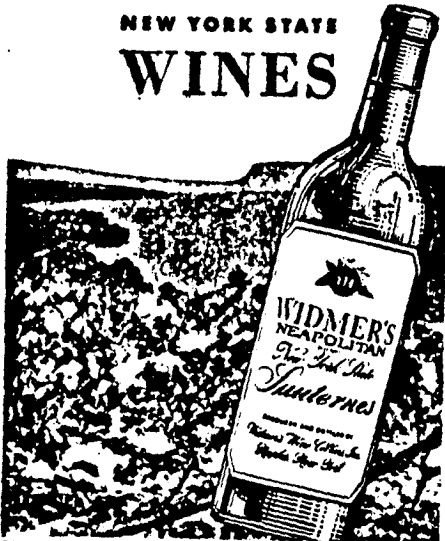
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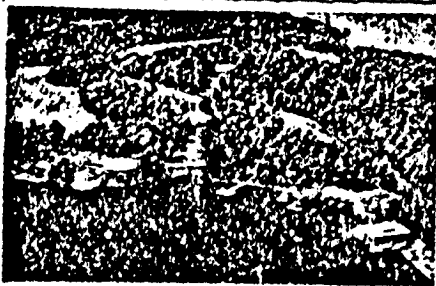


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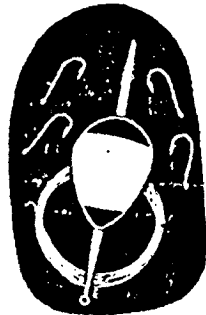
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onized by the long procession of character witnesses for the defendant, including United States Supreme Court Justices Frankfurter and Reed, which could serve as a hint for the defense when it prepares for the retrial. One of the pro-acquittal jurors, Arthur L. Pawliger, said that he couldn't believe Whittaker Chambers could remember the pattern of the wallpaper in anybody's house after twelve years; just as the detail in Mrs. Chambers' descriptions made Mrs. Sweatt sure that the witness was not lying, in Chambers' case the detail made Pawliger sure that the witness was lying.

**S**UNDAY's papers recorded more Nixonian dicta. The Congressman said he thought that Judge Kaufman should have allowed the prosecution to call a couple of eleventh-hour witnesses whom the Judge had ruled out—Mrs. Hede Massing, the divorced wife of Gerhart Eisler, and William Rosep, an officer of a second-hand-automobile firm in Washington. "Perhaps the Judge had good technical grounds for barring those witnesses," the *Times* reported Nixon as saying in a radio interview with Bert Andrews, of the *Herald Tribune*, "but I think those two witnesses should have been permitted to testify about their knowledge, if any, of Mr. Hiss. For all anyone knows, their testimony might have made a great difference in the minds of the jurors." The *Times* took care of the radio interview in six inches of type.

The *Sunday Journal-American* played up a pair of front-page stories under these headlines: "REPUBLICANS ALSO DEMAND FULL PROBE OF JUDGE KAUFMAN" and "HISS TRIAL CONDUCT WIDELY PROTESTED." The latter appeared over a story by Leslie Gould, the *Journal's* financial editor, and the wide protests turned out to be mostly his. "To this reporter," Mr. Gould reported, "it appears there is ample evidence that Kaufman's rulings and attitudes during the trial were detrimental to the Government's case." In its day-to-day reports of the trial, the *Journal-American* occasionally commented upon Judge Kaufman's handling of the case, finding it, in one instance, at least, "unusual." On June 28th, when the trial was little more than half over, the *Journal's* Westbrook Pegler, in a column the editors decided was worth breaking on the front page, dismissed

the Judge as "a New Dealer and an organization Democrat." The *Herald Tribune*, whose coverage of the trial itself was admirably impartial, did not at the time indulge in any such side excursions, but in the days immediately following the trial it became intensely preoccupied with statements criticizing the Judge. On the Sunday after the dismissal of the jury, a story in the right-hand column of the *Tribune's* first page, headlined "HOUSE GROUP SPLIT ON HISS INQUIRY," began: "Reopening of the Congressional investigation into the Hiss-Chambers case and inquiry into the conduct of Judge Samuel H. Kaufman was urged today as a result of the hung jury in the perjury trial of Alger Hiss, and promptly encountered sharp criticism. . . . Reopening of the investigation by the House committee was urged by Representatives Richard M. Nixon, of California; Francis Case, of South Dakota; Harold H. Velde, of Illinois, Republicans; and Morgan M. Moulder, Democrat, of Missouri." The first sixteen inches of the story were fairly evenly divided between the point of view of the urgers and that of their "sharp" critics—Representative Emanuel Celler, of New York, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and former Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, president of the New York City Bar Association. . . . The succeeding twenty-se-



of type, however, were given over entirely to the radio interview between Representative Nixon and Mr. Andrews, the *Tribune's* correspondent. Mr. Nixon again said Judge Kaufman's "prejudice against the prosecution" had been "obvious and apparent," as he had done in his United Press interview printed in the *Tribune* of the day before. (He is obviously unaware that the two words apparently mean the same thing.) Mr. Nixon said he thought "the average American wanted all technicalities waived in this case," and that "the entire Truman administration was extremely anxious that nothing bad happen to Mr. Hiss." He also told the already familiar jury-foreman story. (Mr. James, the foreman, on the same day denied ever having discussed the case outside the courtroom or having carried any bias into court with him.)

**M**ONDAY's *Herald Tribune* gave a first-page play and almost two columns of space to a story headed



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"REP. VELDE JOINS ATTACK ON JUDGE IN HISS TRIAL." Recalling that Velde was one of the four named by the *Tribune* on the previous day as critics of the Judge, I found it hard to understand how he could join something he was already in. "A new blast at the conduct of Judge Samuel H. Kaufman..." the *Tribune's* Monday story, signed by David McConnell, started out, and then it went over much the same ground covered by the Nixon pieces. Mr. Velde, however, had added some new complaints, listing six "flagrant examples" of misconduct by the Judge. Flagrant Example No. 3, for instance, began: "Judge Kaufman permitted a psychiatrist retained by Alger Hiss, one Dr. Binger, to sit in a prominent spot as a prospective defense witness, and take notes on the behavior of Whittaker Chambers." It went on to say that the Judge had allowed Lloyd Paul Stryker, the defense counsel, to ask a long hypothetical question of Dr. Binger but had refused to allow Dr. Binger to reply. "As Prosecutor Murphy cried, in a raging protest against this most undecorous judicial conduct, the 'damage had already been done,'" Representative Velde said, implying that the psychiatrist's presentation on the witness stand had been a mere feint by Stryker to enable him to ask his question. Flagrant Example No. 4 was that Judge Kaufman allowed Mr. Stryker to ask Mr. Chambers about the suicide of his brother but did not allow Murphy to ask Mr. Hiss about the suicide of his father. No. 5 was: "When Chambers was asked how he had first met Alger Hiss he testified that he had been introduced to him by Harold Ware and J. Peters. When the prosecution asked for further identification of these two men, Judge Kaufman refused to allow an answer. Both were known operators of Washington spy rings." In reporting Mr. Velde's criticisms of Judge Kaufman, the *Times* contented itself with a United Press story, which it printed on page 11.

On Tuesday the *Herald Tribune* ran a first-page story headed: "FIVE HISS JURORS EXPRESS BELIEF KAUFMAN WAS BIASED FOR DEFENSE." This time, the newspaper presented Mrs. Sweatt, the real-estate broker, as an authority on jurisprudence, including the admissibility of evidence. "He should have permitted the witnesses and testimony that the prosecution wanted," she was quoted as saying. "I was interested in hearing Mrs. Massing and the Cherner Motor Company executive. And it wasn't right for the Judge to allow that

# SEE?

THE CLASS will please come to order: Miss Jones will now identify, locate and describe the importance of the following — Jackie Jones, Birch Hill, Spindle Hill, John Tom Hill, Bald Hill, Asnebumskit, and Bear Hill. Right you are, Miss Jones. Mac, give the little lady in the balcony a brand new television set. She has correctly identified the seven hills between New York and Boston whose peaks support the microwave radio relay towers which transmit CBS television programs to New England. And now, has it occurred to the class to wonder how the network television programs get to you? They can, of course, come to you in one of two ways: underground, by coaxial cable; or through the air by microwave radio relay. If you live in Chicago or Washington and are looking at a program originating in New York, it is coming to you by cable; if you live in Boston, by microwave radio. The cable (pronounced *co-ax*, as in Aristophanes, or New Haven) is about as big around as a man's wrist and usually contains 8 copper tubes, each the size of a lead pencil. Each tube contains one wire carrying the signals used for television transmission. With microwave relay, however, the radio signals are beamed through the air like a searchlight from relay tower to relay tower. These towers are roughly 25 miles apart and must be within clear line of sight of each other which is why they are usually built on top of hills or tall buildings. Television pictures, as you know, fly through the air with the greatest of ease and come out just as clearly as when they travel underground. At the present time the coaxial cable between New York and Boston is not equipped for television. Hence the seven towers on the seven hills which, as Miss Jones correctly stated, lie respectively just outside of Haverstraw, N. Y., Pawling, N. Y., Waterbury, Conn., Glastonbury, Conn., Stafford Springs, Conn., Worcester, Mass., and Waltham, Mass. You might keep an eye out for them on your vacation. Class dismissed.

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psychiatrist to sit there all the while that Mr. Chambers was on the witness stand. At the same time he was watching the jurors and it made some of us nervous. Then I recall that the Judge let them ask questions about a suicide in Mr. Chambers' family but would not permit the same kind of questions about the suicide in Mr. Hiss's family. Then the Judge didn't let the prosecution identify the Communists Harold Ware and Jay Peters." Any coincidence between the Velde bill of particulars and Mrs. Sweatt's complaints is an obviously apparent coincidence. The *Tribune* seemed in danger of catching the *World-Telegram's* habit of running the same story over and over again indefinitely as news. Mrs. Sweatt's views did not make the *Times* at all. That paper's aftermath story for the day (on page 4) bore the head:

**KAUFMAN'S ACTION  
IN TRIAL DEFENDED**

**REPRESENTATIVE HAYS ACCUSES  
COMMITTEEMEN OF MAKING  
"VICIOUS ACCUSATIONS"**

The *Tribune* carried a similar Hays story on its page 4.

The *Tribune*, by my count, had now run essentially the same story on four successive days, plugging the piece on page 1 on the second, third, and fourth occasions. In its second Nixon story, the paper had requoted what the Congressman had said the first time; in its third-day story, it had quoted Velde's elaboration of Nixon 1 and 2, in which Velde had been cited as concurring; and in its fourth-day first-pager, it had quoted Mrs. Sweatt's detailed restatement of Velde.

On Wednesday, after the *Tribune's* third reprise of the Nixon charge that Judge Kaufman was, to say the least, irresponsible, the paper ran a story on page 8 signed by Peter Kihss and headed:

**COURT RECORD  
SHOWS BASIS  
OF HISS RULINGS**

**KAUFMAN CITED FIVE CASES AND  
TWO TEXTBOOKS IN BAN-  
NING MRS. MASSING**

"On argument in chambers," Mr. Kihss reported, "the judge had cited five cases and two textbooks on evidence to contend the government was bound by the evidence it itself drew from Mr. Hiss 'on a collateral matter,' namely, an alleged 1935 conversation with Mrs. Massing. . . . He added that the testimony would have been admissible if offered in the government's own case, rather than on rebuttal." This was less

the

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arresting than talk about judicial prejudice, and the news editor of the *Herald Tribune* had, accordingly, placed it in a less prominent position. In another headline on page 8, the *Tribune* proclaimed:

INQUIRY ON HISS  
 NOT TO BE CALLED  
 "AT THIS TIME"

(The quotes are the *Herald Tribune's*.) The story that followed attributed to John S. Wood, Democrat, of Georgia, chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, the statement: "There will be no investigation of the judiciary by the Committee on Un-American Activities, and none has been proposed or requested by any members thereof." What Velde and Nixon had wanted, this story explained, was an inquiry by all Congress, not just by their own committee. Representative Francis E. Walter, Democrat, of Pennsylvania, another committeeman, had also made a few remarks, and these found their way into the bottom half of the story on page 8, as follows: "Representative Walter pointed out that the Hiss case has not been concluded. He said that for a Congressional committee to investigate the Hiss trial would be 'an interference with and an obstruction of the administration of justice.' It is not within the province of Congress, he said, to inquire into 'errors of law' and other technicalities of the trial.

"Presumably," he said, "there will be another judge when the case is retried, and the new judge should be free to make his own decisions at the time and not be influenced by the findings of any Congressional committee."

In the last two paragraphs of this story, the *Herald Tribune* was right back on the old theme, quoting George A. Dondero, of Michigan, still another Republican, as saying: "When five members of the jury in the New York *Herald Tribune* this morning say that the judge was prejudiced in favor of the defendant, there is surely some basis for the charge that the trial was unfair"—a small but gemlike example of how a ball can be tossed from one hand to another. The effect of this sort of reiteration, which is to be expected of the *Journal-American* but not of the *Herald Tribune*, may well be, as Congressman Walter suggested, to intimidate any judge who in the future presides over a similar trial, or a retrial of the Hiss case. That far-short-of-radical paper, the *Christian Science Monitor*, got the idea across well in this front-page headline on Tuesday, July

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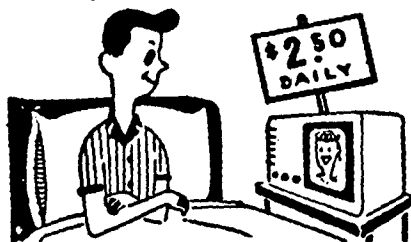
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12th, at a time when the *Tribune* was running its Mrs. Sweatt story:

### BLASTS ON KAUFMAN SEEN CHALLENGE TO FREE U.S. JUDICIARY

The story that followed, by Mary Hornaday, who covered the trial for the *Monitor*, included the statement "If Mr. Hiss had been acquitted, the attacks on the Judge probably would have been even more violent." It is much the same sort of thing one might write after a trial in Yugoslavia. The great publicity given to the jurors and the violent attacks in the press by jurors voting for conviction upon those voting for acquittal appear likely to make jury service even less popular than it is now. The *Journal-American*, which never puts too fine a point on things, recorded three days after the jury was dismissed: "All jurors in the trial reported receiving telephone calls and mail commenting on their stand. Those who voted for conviction received expressions of approval while those who stood for acquittal reported 'threats.'" After which the *Journal* gave the names and addresses (of considerable convenience, I imagine, to anonymous letter writers) of two of the pro-acquittal jurors. It quoted one of them as saying that he had received a call from a man who said he (the juror) was going to "get his," and that he had also received a postcard in red ink, calling him a "sucker for the Communists" and "advising him to go back to Russia."

This sort of thing obviously and apparently lessens the chance of a fair trial next time. Perhaps the secrecy of the jury room, like that of the voting booth, should be protected by law.

—A. J. LIEBLING

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New York #7, New York

August 15, 1949

MEMO

RE: JAHAM  
TIMMY HOBSON

In discussing some of the aspects of this case today, it was suggested that a discreet check be made to determine the present whereabouts and activities of TIMMY HOBSON. Mr. CONNELLEY suggested that this be done and indicated that HOBSON is probably still living with the tavern owner he has been known to associate with in Greenwich Village.

THOMAS G. SPENCER  
SA

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